

Appl. No. 10/031,481
Art. Docket No. 7679
Amtd. dated December 7, 2004
Reply to Office Action of Nov. 2, 2004
Customer No. 27752

LIST OF CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Claims 1-16 (canceled).

17. (Previously Presented) A silicone emulsion composition comprising:

- (a) at least about 0.025% and less than about 10% of silicone oil, by weight of said composition;
- (b) an effective amount to emulsify said silicone oil and reduce surface tension of said composition of a surfactant system;
- (c) an effective amount of a buffering system to maintain a pH of said composition to be at least about 6 for a period of at least about 3 months;

wherein said buffering system is selected from the group consisting of:

- (a) tris(hydroxymethyl)aminomethane and hydrochloric acid;
- (b) borax and hydrochloric acid;
- (c) diethanolamine and hydrochloric acid;
- (d) sodium borate and sodium hydroxide;
- (e) sodium bicarbonate and sodium hydroxide;
- (f) sodium hydrogen phosphate and sodium hydroxide;
- (g) sodium carbonate and sodium bicarbonate;
- (h) boric acid and sodium hydroxide;
- (i) glycine and sodium hydroxide; and
- (j) potassium chloride and sodium hydroxide; and

wherein said buffering system has a buffering capacity of at least about 0.01.

18. (Currently Amended) The silicone emulsion composition of Claim 17, wherein said surfactant system is selected from a (a) nonionic silicone surfactant, (b) nonionic nonsilicone surfactant, and (c) ionic surfactant;

wherein the nonionic nonsilicone surfactant is chosen from at least one of the following:

- (a) an alkyl ethoxylated surfactant;
- (b) a compound having the general formula:



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wherein R⁸ is an alkyl group or an alkyl aryl group, selected from the group consisting of primary, secondary and branched chain alkyl hydrocarbyl groups, primary, secondary and branched chain alkenyl hydrocarbyl groups, and/or primary, secondary and branched chain alkyl- and alkenyl-substituted phenolic hydrocarbyl groups having from about 6 to about 20 carbon atoms; s is an integer from about 2 to about 45; B is hydrogen, a carboxylate group, or a sulfate group; and linking group Z is selected from the group consisting of: -O-, -N(R)_x-, -C(O)O-, -C(O)N(R)-, -C(O)N(R)-, and mixtures thereof, in which R, when present, is R⁸, a lower alkyl with about 1 to about 4 carbons, a polyalkylene oxide, or hydrogen, and x is 1 or 2.

- (c) a straight-chain, primary alcohol ethoxylate;
- (d) a carboxylated alcohol ethoxylate;
- (e) a straight-chain, secondary alcohol ethoxylate;
- (f) an alkyl phenol ethoxylate;
- (g) a branched chain alcohol ethoxylate;
- (h) an ethoxylated alkyl amine derived from the condensation of an ethylene oxide with a hydrophobic alkyl amine;
- (i) a carboxylated alcohol ethoxylate;
- (j) a surfactant derived from carbohydrate;
- (k) a surfactant derived from a sorbitan ester;
- (l) a surfactant derived from an alkyl glucoside; and
- (m) a surfactant derived from an alkyl polyglucoside.

19. (Currently Amended) A silicone emulsion composition comprising:
at least about 0.025% and less than about 10% of silicone oil, by weight of said composition;
an effective amount to emulsify said silicone oil and reduce surface tension of said composition of a surfactant system; said surfactant system is chosen from:

- (i) a nonionic silicone surfactant wherein the ratio of said nonionic silicone surfactant to said silicone oil is from about 0.01:1 to about 3:1;
- (ii) a nonionic nonsilicone surfactant wherein the ratio of said nonionic nonsilicone surfactant to said silicone oil is from about 0.001:1 to about 1:1; or
- (iii) an ionic surfactant wherein the ratio of said ionic surfactant to said silicone oil is from about 0.0001:1 to about 0.5:1;

wherein the composition comprises a buffering system, wherein the buffering system comprises at least one of the following:

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- (i) tris(hydroxymethyl)aminomethane and hydrochloric acid;
- (ii) borax and hydrochloric acid;
- (iii) diethanolamine and hydrochloric acid;
- (iv) sodium borate and sodium hydroxide;
- (v) sodium bicarbonate and sodium hydroxide;
- (vi) sodium hydrogen phosphate and sodium hydroxide;
- (vii) sodium carbonate and sodium bicarbonate;
- (viii) boric acid and sodium hydroxide;
- (ix) glycine and sodium hydroxide; and
- (x) potassium chloride and sodium hydroxide;

and wherein the nonionic nonsilicone surfactant is chosen from at least one of the following:

(a) an alkyl ethoxylated surfactant;

(b) a compound having the general formula:



wherein R⁸ is an alkyl group or an alkyl aryl group, selected from the group consisting of primary, secondary and branched chain alkyl hydrocarbyl groups, primary, secondary and branched chain alkenyl hydrocarbyl groups, and/or primary, secondary and branched chain alkyl- and alkenyl-substituted phenolic hydrocarbyl groups having from about 6 to about 20 carbon atoms; s is an integer from about 2 to about 45; B is hydrogen, a carboxylate group, or a sulfate group; and linking group Z is selected from the group consisting of: -O-, -N(R)-, -C(O)O-, -C(O)N(R)-, -C(O)N(R)-, and mixtures thereof, in which R, when present, is R⁸, a lower alkyl with about 1 to about 4 carbons, a polyalkylene oxide, or hydrogen, and x is 1 or 2.

(c) a straight-chain, primary alcohol ethoxylate;

(d) a carboxylated alcohol ethoxylate;

(e) a straight-chain, secondary alcohol ethoxylate;

(f) an alkyl phenol ethoxylate;

(g) a branched chain alcohol ethoxylate;

(h) an ethoxylated alkyl amine derived from the condensation of an ethylene oxide with a hydrophobic alkyl amine;

(i) a carboxylated alcohol ethoxylate;

(j) a surfactant derived from carbohydrate;

(k) a surfactant derived from a sorbitan ester;

(l) a surfactant derived from an alkyl glucoside; and

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(m) a surfactant derived from an alkyl polyglucoside.

20. (Previously Presented) The silicone emulsion composition of Claim 18, wherein said silicone oil is a polydimethylsiloxane; said nonionic silicone surfactant is a polyalkylene oxide polysiloxane; said nonionic nonsilicone surfactant is an alkyl ethoxylated surfactant; and said ionic surfactant is an alkyl sulfate.
21. (Previously Presented) The silicone emulsion of Claim 17, further comprising from about 0.005% to about 2% of an antimicrobial active, by weight of said composition.
22. (Original) The silicone emulsion of Claim 18, wherein said buffer system comprises tris(hydroxymethyl)aminomethane and hydrochloric acid.
23. (Original) The silicone emulsion of Claim 22, wherein said buffer system has a buffering capacity of at least about 0.02
24. (Original) The silicone emulsion of Claim 17, wherein said buffer system has a buffering capacity of at least about 0.02
25. (Original) The silicone emulsion of Claim 20 wherein the said polydimethylsiloxane silicone oil is volatile.
26. (Previously Presented) The silicone emulsion composition of Claim 20, wherein said composition further comprising from about 0.003% to about 0.5% perfume, by weight of said composition.
27. (Canceled)

Claims 28-47 (Canceled).

48. (Previously Presented). The composition of claim 17 or 27, wherein the buffering system maintains the pH of the composition to be no greater than about 12.